

Central Indiana

January 2016

Climate Summary

Tied for 63rd Warmest on Record at Indianapolis

35th Driest on Record at Indianapolis

Tied for the 72nd Least Snowiest on Record at Indianapolis

Temperatures

Generally mild conditions started off the first third of January, but colder air would move into the area for the middle of the month. Warm air returned to end the month, with the warmest readings of the month seen during the last couple of days. The end result was a January that was just a little above average.

Temperatures warmed to near 50 degrees by January 8th, but by around the 10th readings had dropped to around 0 degrees. Low temperatures during the 10th to the 13th were in the single digits above, and in some areas, below zero.

A brief warmup occurred around the 15th, but then another surge of cold air moved in. Some locations did not even reach as warm as 10 degrees on the 18th.

Warmer air returned to close out the month, with near record highs occurring on the 30th and 31st. The warmest temperatures of the month occurred during this period, with locations across the southern half of central Indiana seeing back-to-back highs in the 60s.

Site	January 2016 Avg Temp	January 2016 Difference from Normal	Highest Temperature	Lowest Temperature
Indianapolis	28.9	+0.8	61 on 30	1 on 13 and 18
Lafayette	26.9	+0.4	59 on 31	-3 on 13
Muncie	29.1	+2.6	60 on 31	1 on 18
Terre Haute	29.4	+1.2	64 on 31	2 on 18
Bloomington	30.2	+0.8	63 on 31	-1 on 13
Shelbyville	29.0*	+0.3	62 on 30	0 on 13
Indy – Eagle Crk.	28.7	+0.6	60 on 31	1 on 18

*Temperature data missing for Shelbyville on January 6-8

At Indianapolis, there were 15 days with above normal average temperatures, 14 days with below normal average temperatures, and 2 days with normal average temperatures.

January 2016 was tied for the 63rd warmest in the Indianapolis area since weather records began in 1871.

Precipitation

After one for the wettest Decembers of record, January's liquid precipitation was below normal for nearly the entire state. Melted precipitation totals ranged from less than an inch in portions of west-central and northwest Indiana to nearly 3 inches in southwest Indiana. Much of the state received between 1 and 2 inches for the month.

There were two main rain events during January. The first was on the 9th and early on the 10th when one-half to over an inch and half of rain fell in the state. Temperatures dropping well below freezing early on the 10th caused roadway icing problems. The other rain event was on the 15th when much of the area received from one quarter to over one-half inch of rain.

Rainfall on the 9th and 15th prolonged high water conditions along the Wabash River in western Indiana. With little precipitation after the 15th, stream levels returned to normal at the end of the month.

Site	January 2016 Precipitation	January 2016 Difference from Normal	Wettest Day	Longest Dry Stretch
Indianapolis	1.46	-1.20	0.53 on 9	3 days 5-7
Lafayette	1.08	-0.78	0.52 on 9	4 days 21-24 and 27-30
Muncie	1.27	-0.96	0.32 on 8 and 10	3 days 5-7
Terre Haute	0.68	-1.68	0.50 on 9	7 days 1-7
Bloomington	1.51	-1.80	0.66 on 9	4 days 27-30
Shelbyville	1.36	-1.03	0.39 on 10	4 days 21-24
Indy – Eagle Crk.	0.65	-1.56	0.30 on 9	3 days 1-3, 5-7

January 2016 was tied for the 35th driest in the Indianapolis area since weather records began in 1871.

Snowfall

After a nearly snowless December, snowfall for January was near normal for northern and central Indiana to above normal in southern Indiana. Much of the snow in central and southern Indiana fell from the 10th to the 24th.

At Indianapolis, the snowiest day was January 20th when 1.9 inches of snow fell.

Severe Weather

No severe weather occurred across central Indiana during the month of January.

For information on severe weather in other areas during January, visit the Storm Prediction Center “Severe Weather Event Summaries” website at <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/>.

Miscellaneous

The maximum wind gust at Indianapolis International Airport was 46 mph out of the southwest on the 23rd. Fog or haze was reported at Indianapolis on 19 days during the month. Thunder was reported on 4 days during the month.

February 2016 Outlook

The official outlook for February 2016 from the Climate Prediction Center indicates an equal chance of near, above, or below normal temperatures across much of central Indiana, with odds favoring above normal temperatures across far northern areas. At Indianapolis, the average temperature for the month is 32.1 degrees. There is a greater chance for below normal precipitation for central Indiana. The average precipitation for February at Indianapolis is 2.32 inches, with 6.5 inches of snowfall.

Data prepared by the Indianapolis Forecast Office.